

It's a UFWC project

War on alcoholism

By Rose Mary Pedersen
Deseret News staff writer

Mrs. Eldred G. Wright of the Utah Federation of Women's Clubs is waging a war against alcoholism.

And she's determined to get everyone in the state to join her "army."

"Somehow we must make people aware that chronic drinking is just as much of a problem here as it is other places in the nation," Mrs. Wright declares.

"Too many believe alcoholism can't touch them because of Utah's unique cultural background.

"Too many believe it can't happen here. Well, it can — and it is. Like the song says, 'We've got trouble, right here in River City!'"

Mrs. Wright can reel off a list of statistics to prove her point. And the statistics are sobering.

— Alcoholism is up 144 percent in Utah since 1965.

— There are more than 26,500 chronic drinkers in the state.

— Five thousand men and women, although not chronic drinkers, have drinking problems.

— Fifty-four percent of the state's high school students use alcoholic beverages.

Furthermore, says Mrs. Wright, whether you've ever tasted a cocktail or not, you must be concerned about liquor.

"We all have to worry about drunken drivers and the slaughter on our highways," she emphasizes.

"The way drinking can break up homes, destroy marriages, ruin careers and drain the economy affects us all."



Mrs. Eldred G. Wright

For these reasons Mrs. Wright, who is chairman of the Utah Federation of Women's Clubs' Alcohol and Drug Abuse Section, has been traveling the length and breadth of the state recently. (She resides in South Jordan.)

She's spoken at luncheon meetings, women's clubs, district and general UFWC conventions.

She's passed out packets of literature and, as a member of the State PTA Steering and Advisory Committee on Alcohol, has helped compile literature and a coloring book on alcoholism.

Always her message has been the same: "Become aware of alcohol's threat to your health; educate others about it."

Mrs. Wright's all-out war against alcoholism began several months ago.

That's when she and three

other delegates from the UFWC attended a seminar in Washington, D.C.

At the seminar, co-sponsored by the General Federation of Women's Clubs and the National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, they heard about the country's skyrocketing liquor sales and its ever-growing list of people dependent on the bottle.

They heard the General Federation adopt alcohol awareness and rehabilitation as its national project; encourage state groups to follow suit.

And in January at a state convention, the Utah organization voted to do just that!

"Alcoholism and rehabilitation will continue to be our project for two years," explains Mrs. Wright. "And I intend to keep giving talks as often as I can telling people how drinking is our number one national health problem."

Mrs. Wright also is helping to plan an educational seminar on alcoholism that will be held at Snowbird June 3-4, co-sponsored by the UFWC and the Utah Division on Alcoholism and Drugs.

The seminar will involve representatives from all of the Utah Federation's 74 member clubs, as well as state and national experts on the subject.

And those conducting it hope that it will serve as "basic training" for delegates, who will then return to their clubs and communities ready to battle alcoholism on their own.

"We are eager to reach all of our 3,000 members, and every other woman in the

See DANGERS on page C-4



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Stanton women

Elizabeth Cady Stanton
country to put forth the notion

It was in 1848 at the first
in the U.S., organized by her
Mrs. Stanton introduced the

"That it is the duty of the
secure to themselves the
franchise."

Elizabeth Cady Stanton
daughter of Judge Daniel C.

Women who

and learned in his law office
under which women lived.

She met further discrimination
obtain the same education
was refused entrance into U

After studying for several
School at Troy, N.Y., she
seven years studying law in

When Mrs. Stanton called
convention in Seneca Falls,
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But this did not dissuade
who continued her crusade

Keeping pos

By Elizabeth L. Post

DEAR MRS. POST:
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